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A VOLUNTARY TESTIMONIAL. A Chronic Sufferer from Catarrh Tells of His Relief.

ROANOKE, VA., Feb. 10, '92. Having been a victim of nasal catarrh for some years and having tried remedy after remedy with little, if any, benefit, a week ago I placed myself in the hands of Dr. Coates, the specialist, on Campbell street, at which time I was suffering from some of its most distressing symptoms. Feeling so decided an improvement in so short a time, I deem but right in justice to Dr. Coates that I should let others who suffer know that it will be greatly to their benefit to consult Dr. Coates, especially so should they have been treating themselves, as the results between doctoring oneself and having one who has special appliances at hand to get at the root of the disease and who has made a study of its forms and symptoms, is so marked that it would be doing an injustice to one's health to neglect the opportunity thus afforded of consulting with Dr. Coates. T. B. JACKSON.

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VIEWED BY A THOUSAND PEOPLE.

Lavender's Body the Object of Much Interest.

Relic Hunters Cut the Rope With Which He Was Strung up and the Remains Fall to the Ground—The Coroner's Inquest—He Came to His Death From the Hands of Parties Unknown—Judge Robertson Indignant Over the Event. The Matter to be Fully Investigated by a Special Grand Jury.

Dangling by a rope an inch in diameter from the limb of an oak tree on the bank of Roanoke river yesterday morning, swung the body of William Lavender, frozen stiff and stark.

The feet were six feet above the ground, and the rope, which encircled his neck with a regular hangman's knot under his left ear, was over a horizontal limb and then wrapped around the trunk of the tree. A few negroes passed shortly before 7 o'clock, going to work. They stopped a minute and gazed in horror at the awful spectacle and passed on as fast as their feet could carry them. At 8 o'clock a dozen or more persons had gathered, and from that time on until 10:30 o'clock, when the body was removed, there was a continual stream of people going and coming.

It was piercing and bitter cold, and the weird, strange scene on the banks of the river, with wind and snow, held a crowd together when all other attractions would have failed.

One negro, wearing a pair of spectacles and looking very sanctimonious, came down the bank and gazed at the body.

"It is a shame," he said, "for people calling themselves citizens to do such a thing as that."

He repeated the words again, when someone informed him that all the rope had not been used up yet, and if he valued his neck he had better keep quiet. The negro moved off. Several others came around, but few said anything more about the deed.

Coroner Gray was notified of the lynching and at once had the following jury summoned: M. P. Carner, W. J. Ferguson, R. H. Gray, A. B. Cook, A. B. Houser and D. M. Armstrong. Before the jury arrived curious persons had begun cutting away bits of rope.

This piece of enterprise soon became disastrous to the wretch's position, for he came down with a heavy thud and lay stiff, at full length, upon the ground.

The jury viewed the body when the coroner came, after which it was placed in a wagon and taken to the establishment of Oakley & Woolwine.

A photographer came in with his instrument and secured a likeness of the man as he lay on the board with the dead hangman's knot encircling his neck.

Coroner Gray said when he again called the jury together that the object was to find out the immediate cause of death, and if possible, who were responsible.

Policeman Tally was the first witness and in answer to the question, "State what you know about this man and who he is," replied:

"That is the same man we took out of the station-house last night and his name is Will Lavender. I saw him alive last night about 12:30 o'clock. We had taken him to my house to take care of him. A party of men, whom I do not know, forced their way into the house and took the man out. We did all we could to protect him, but there were too many for us. We could not have sustained ourselves with weapons. I did not know a single man who was in the crowd. They all had handkerchiefs over their faces. They did not say what they were going to do with Lavender, but said that they wanted him."

Chief Jones stated that Sergeant Griffin and Officer Austin would make the same statement and as they were not present their testimony was omitted.

Drs. Moorman and Lawrence made an examination of the dead negro and gave their opinion that he came to his death from strangulation. They could not say positively what was the immediate cause of his death without an autopsy. But the jury decided not to have an autopsy and after a few minutes' consultation rendered a verdict that Will Lavender came to his death by having a rope tied about his neck and being hung up to a tree until he was dead, by persons unknown to the jurors.

The body was turned over to the city authorities to be buried in the almshouse grave-yard.

Opinions in regard to the lynching were freely expressed all around town yesterday. It was the general feeling that a good thing had been done. Justice had been meted out in just deserts, and the dignity of the people maintained.

Judge Robertson is very indignant about the lynching. He says little but looks determined. He feels that the dignity of the law must be maintained. He advised Mr. Smith, the commonwealth's attorney, to make a full investigation of the matter. In the Hustings Court yesterday the judge ordered that a special grand jury be summoned for next Thursday. While the judge did not state for what purpose the grand jury was summoned, it is surmised on good authority that it is for the purpose of investigating the lynching. The jury is composed of the following: Samuel Kinneer, W. J. Thomson, R. L. Lane, A. J. Hayslip, Thomas Engleby, E. W. Donnelly, R. H. Cottrell, G. A. Turner and Robert Johns.

Lavender's body has been an eventful life. He has been sentenced to the chain-gang in this city more than a dozen times. He was a petty thief in all its varied phases. But his boldest crime was his last.

Lavender's confession to a TIMES reporter on the night of the lynching embodied his movements from Monday night until the day he was captured. He said that on the night he attacked the girl he went about five miles south

of the city and remained all night with some colored people. He boarded a train the next day and came back to Roanoke. He staid around town at different places, and on Tuesday night staid with Jake Evans, B. L. Greider's driver, on Terry's Hill. On Wednesday night he staid at the same place.

He was afraid to venture out much during the day time, but finally went to Davis' saloon and thence to the water works, where he tried to get work.

One of the most important statements that Lavender made was to tell the whereabouts of Paul Angle, and give the names of the thieves who entered Levine's store and the whereabouts of the goods, or at least a large portion of what was taken.

Paul Angle killed a negro boy named Ed. Harvey last summer while bathing in Roanoke river. Several negro boys witnessed the deed, and stated afterward that Angle shot Harvey without provocation.

"I can tell you where Angle is," said Lavender, after Austin had asked him to tell all he knew. "He is in Winston, N. C. I saw him there myself and then I saw a boy the other day, who told me that he was still there."

Lavender said he was near by when the shooting occurred. He saw Angle run toward Mill Mountain and make his escape. Angle had recently been bragging about killing a man in Roanoke.

Lavender's statement to the police about how the goods were stolen from Levine's store was given minutely, and all who heard him on that eventful night believed he was telling the truth.

The officers sat and smoked and listened to the story, and the negro stuttered on with his version of the affair, hardly apprehensive of the fact that two hours went by he would dangle at the end of a rope.

He stated that two other negroes, giving their names, had come to him and made up a plan to rob the store.

He told how they got in the building by forcing an entrance at the rear, and how they had carried off the boots, hats and other goods and secreted them on Railroad avenue. Lavender told the officers where they could go and find some of the goods yet. Officer Austin made a memorandum of the places and names and promised to look them up.

The negro also told about stealing a stove several months ago and where it could be found.

Yesterday the officers went to the place and discovered the stove as he stated. Lavender further stated that he had become so hardened to stealing that he could not get it out of his mind. He could never be satisfied unless he was stealing. His parents before him, he said, taught him to steal, but they finally drove him from home, he hardly knew what for.

Lavender's record in Roanoke was fully ventilated yesterday. He has been here about five years, and during that time has served about twenty months on the chain gang.

As was stated yesterday, he assaulted M. C. Morris, who was chief of police, about two years ago, and served six months on the chain gang. Lavender used a stone in making the assault, but, as it happened, the chief was not hurt.

Justice Howerton has sent Lavender to the chain gang several times, and the mayor has had him up frequently for vagrancy and disorderly conduct.

Mayor Carr ordered him to leave the city on more than one occasion. He figured as a boothblack until he became an expert in stealing.

FINED FOR ASSAULT. Mayor Evans Assesses W. N. Sale \$20 for This Offense.

W. N. Sale was tried before Mayor Evans yesterday morning on the charge of assaulting J. Marks, an old man, at the market last Tuesday and knocking him down.

Old Uncle Jake, as he is generally called, is often employed around the market to grind knives and file saws for the butchers. He is old and gray, while Sale is comparatively a young man. The evidence showed that Sale was the aggressor, and the mayor accorded him very little mercy. Sale attempted to show that he was acting in self-defense.

Mayor Evans said that \$30 was the limit but he would only enter a fine of \$20 against Sale. His counsel took an appeal and he gave bond for his appearance at the April term of the Hustings Court.

SENT TO THE GRAND JURY. The Man who Assaulted Mack Morris Given a Hearing.

C. H. Wooten, the young man was assaulted ex-Chief of Police M. C. Morris last week, had a hearing before Justice Williams yesterday. Wooten was defended by Captain Berkeley, while R. E. Scott conducted the prosecution. The defendant acknowledged striking Mr. Morris, but said he did it in self-defense, and that he was afraid Morris was going to shoot him.

The witnesses on the other side said that he ran up behind Morris and struck him while his back was turned. Justice Williams thought the evidence against the defendant conclusive and sent him on to the grand jury. Wooten gave bail in the sum of \$100, with J. H. Wilkerson, his employer, as his surety.

Thompson-Hunter. J. Payne Thompson, of this city, one of the proprietors of Thompson's book store, was married in Richmond Wednesday evening to Miss Helen Ashby Hunter. The ceremony was performed at Broad Street Methodist Church at 5 o'clock by Rev. Dr. Tudor. Miss Mary Thomas and Miss Birdie Jones were the maids of honor.

The ushers were: Messrs. C. W. Hunter, Jr. (best man), of Richmond; D. S. Meadows, L. N. Chiles, Page Goodwin, Robert M. Kent, Jr., H. M. Anderson, of Roanoke, and William J. Perry, of Staunton. The pages were Miss Annie Hunter and Master Robert Hunter. Professor Sheppard Webb presided at the organ. The young couple have gone on a bridal tour North.

ALLEN GETS A HEAVY SENTENCE

Sixteen Years for Assaulting R. O. Arrington.

The Jury was Out But a Short Time—Their Verdict was Probably Influenced by the Lynching—It Was a Surprise to All. A History of the Offense—Motion for a New Trial Overruled and the Man Sentenced by the Judge.

The lynching of Will Lavender yesterday morning seemed to wake up the jury in the Hustings Court yesterday. It was a genuine surprise when, after hearing the case of Leo Allen for the robbery of R. O. Arrington on the 23d of last July, the jury came in with a verdict of sixteen years in the penitentiary.

Mr. Arrington was doing business on Nelson street, near the market house, at the time. He took several drinks in the evening and became slightly intoxicated. He started to his home in the western part of the city, and near Woodland Park was accosted by a man whom he took to be a policeman. He could not tell his color at that time, but the man carried a club in his hand. He claimed to be an officer and said he would take him (Arrington) home. Instead of doing so he took the man toward Carr's woods and then assaulted and robbed him.

His treatment, according to Mr. Arrington's account, was most brutal and outrageous. Mr. Arrington had \$300 on his person at the time, which the negro succeeded in getting. He made his escape to Rice, on the Norfolk and Western, where he was located some time afterward by Policeman Schanocks. About \$300 of the money was recovered.

For several months the case has been postponed, but it was carried through yesterday without a hitch. W. H. Turner was appointed attorney for Allen, and Mr. Smith conducted the prosecution. The jury were out but a short time and brought in a verdict as stated above. A motion for a new trial was overruled and Judge Robertson sentenced the condemned man to the State prison.

THE RARIG FAILURE.

Steps Will Probably be Taken to Reorganize the Company.

The Rarig Iron Company, of Buena Vista, which failed Wednesday for \$80,000, had one of the most complete works for the manufacture of engines, rolling mills, furnaces and boilers in the South. The assignment was made to J. E. Mullen, trustee. The deed directs the effects to be turned into money and the payment of the obligations.

The schedule of liabilities by open account amounts to \$49,888.47 and by note given in settlement of accounts \$32,692.97. There is a bonded debt also that is a prior lien upon the property. All real and personal estate is conveyed.

A gentleman who is well acquainted with the affairs of the company informed a TIMES reporter yesterday that the prime cause of the failure was due to several causes. In the first place there was a larger expenditure in the shape of extended buildings than was absolutely necessary at the outset. Secondly, a very considerable amount of local subscriptions to the stock of the company was not paid, which left it short of working capital.

These two things might have been overcome if it had not been for the extraordinary depression in business. Orders fell off and competition became exceedingly close, so that there was no chance of making money. The company having no reserve to bridge it over the dull times, it had to go under.

It is too soon to give positive results, but it is more than probable that effective measures will be taken for the reorganization of the company upon a proper basis.

A STUPENDOUS RAILROAD DEAL.

The Philadelphia and Reading Gets Control of Two Roads.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 12.—[Special]—President McLeod, of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, concluded the most stupendous railroad financial transaction in the world's history last Wednesday night. By it his company will be enabled to pay a dividend on its stock this year for the first time in sixteen years.

The Lehigh Valley railroad and the New Jersey Central railroads are leased to the Reading for 999 years, and arrangements made whereby the Reading's net earnings will increase \$1,250,000, which will pay every obligation, fixed or contingent, and 6 per cent on the common stock.

In addition, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company will on the 23d of this month pass into the control of friends of the Reading and will be operated in its interest.

The Reading Railroad Company and its leased lines now represent \$600,000,000 of capital and its earnings will amount to \$80,000,000 per year.

Under this arrangement the Reading road will practically control four-fifths of the anthracite coal output of the country.

New Insurance Officers.

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—[Special]—John A. McCall, comptroller of the Equitable Life Assurance Company and formerly State superintendent of insurance, was unanimously elected president of the New York Life Insurance Company at a meeting of the trustees to day.

The trustees created a new office, that of vice-president. This was done in order to promote George W. Perkins, inspector of agencies for the company, whose services to the company in creating \$18,000,000 of new business gained for him the title of "His ark of the Company."

AGAINST THE KENT BILL.

Vice-president Eddy Writes from a Taxpayer's Standpoint.

The following open letter was recently addressed to Hon. M. C. Thomas by Vice-President Eddy, of the Norfolk and Western. It discusses the Kent bill from the standpoint of a citizen and taxpayer with admirable force of argument:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 23, 1892. Hon. M. C. Thomas, House of Delegates, Richmond, Va.

DEAR SIR: Referring to your valued favor of the 19th, in relation to my appearing before the committee on roads and internal navigation in opposition to the Kent bill, as I wired you this morning, engagements in Baltimore Saturday will prevent my appearing before the committee on that day, and the views I now present are from the standpoint of a citizen and a taxpayer of Virginia, and not as a railroad official. Yourself, as well as many members of the senate and house, well know the interest I have taken for the past six years in the agricultural development of our State as well as in its development in mining and manufacturing. We have within the borders of our State between ten and fifteen million acres of land that has never been tilled, two-thirds of which is capable of cultivation as soon as cleared—valuable agricultural and grazing lands. There are millions of acres of land that has heretofore been tilled that have remained idle since 1864, every acre of which is capable of producing remunerative crops. The farmers of Virginia cannot afford to force the issue, as presented in the Kent bill, in the presence of the present great industrial development within our State.

The prosperity of the farmers of Virginia is assured, and that, too, without the need of any restrictive railroad legislation. The home markets of the new cities and towns in the Valley and Southwest Virginia, with the annual increase in population of the leading cities east of the Blue Ridge, are furnishing the best of all markets for the farmer—a home market—a market at which he can dispose of everything that is raised upon the farm, from a hen's egg to a trotting horse, without having to deal with the middleman. You, as a citizen of Roanoke, know the advantages of this home market to the farmers of Roanoke, Franklin and Craig counties, through the building up of Roanoke and Salem and the great increase in the non-producing population of those cities, as compared with the markets they had to seek ten years ago, viz., the cities of Virginia east of the Blue Ridge, or Washington and Baltimore.

□The same home market will come to every farmer from the north end of the Shenandoah Valley to the extreme southern and southwestern end of the State. The same home markets are growing for the farmers east of the Blue Ridge by reason of the increase in population of every city and town in the Piedmont and Tidewater section, with the additional advantage of having short railroad hauls on their farm products to Washington, Baltimore, etc.

The farmers of the valleys should appreciate the new markets that have been opened up to them in North and South Carolina and Georgia through the completion of the Roanoke and Southern and the Lynchburg and Durham railroads. They will find there the best markets for their grain and hay. I cannot believe that the intelligent, progressive farmers of Virginia ask for any such legislation. If they will only consider what the completion of these two lines of railroads will do for them in the future they will not ask for any legislation that will cripple in any way these new enterprises. The non-producing population of our State in all our cities, mines and manufacturing establishments, is increasing much faster than the population of those engaged in agricultural pursuits, and all for the farmers' gain.

I am advised that the inquiries for farm and grazing lands are very numerous, coming from every Northern and Northwestern State, and the prospects for desirable immigration of the class of farmers that we desire for our State is more promising now than ever before. As you are aware, the great development in mining and manufacturing in Virginia within the last ten years has brought to us thousands upon thousands of skilled mechanics of all kinds, thereby increasing this non-producing population, and increasing taxable values. This all redounds to the benefit of the farmer, and I therefore cannot bring myself to believe that the farmers of Virginia, those who till their ground and raise diversified crops, favor any measure that would, in the least degree, hinder the continued increase of manufacturing industries or the continued development of Virginia's great mineral resources. The future prosperity of Virginia, which I believe will depend in a great degree upon her mining and manufacturing industries, should not in any way be threatened by any unwise legislation.

Compare the condition of our mining and manufacturing industries to-day with those of the New England States, and States of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and see there the most prosperous farmers of all the States in the union; and looking for the reasons that make them prosperous, you will find it to be the home markets furnished to the farmers in those States by the great manufacturing towns and cities, and mining development.

As a citizen of Virginia, I believe any anti-railway legislation at this time unwise and dangerous to the State at large. Yours truly,

(Signed) CHAS. G. EDDY.

TELEGRAPHIC FLASHES.

Thyus fever exists among the recently arrived Hebrew and Italian immigrants who landed in New York on January 30 from the steamer Massilia.

THE FIRST APPROPRIATION BILL

Passage of the Military Academy Bill.

Holman Gets in His Usual Reduction. Republicans Try to Defeat Amendments But Cannot Rally the Strength. The Ways and Means Committee of the House Will be Asked to Try and Prevent the Manufacture of Cigarettes—The Senate Not in Session.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—[Special]—The military academy bill occupied the attention of the House this morning. Debate was limited to one minute.

Mr. Wheeler, of Alabama, on behalf of the committee, withdrew his motion to strike out the appropriation of \$15,000 for improving the drainages of the barracks of enlisted men, but it was immediately renewed by Holman, of Indiana, and was carried by a vote of 108 to 59.

The Republicans attempted to defeat the amendment by striking out the appropriation of \$50,000 for enlarging the gas plant and substituting therefor an appropriation of \$9,540 for an electric plant to light the cadet barracks. They were unable to do so, however, and the amendment was agreed to.

The bill, the first of the regular appropriation bills, was then passed. The House then went into committee of the whole on the private calendar and shortly afterward adjourned until tomorrow.

The ways and means committee of the House will be petitioned to prepare a bill invoking paternal condemnation of the Government upon the cigarette habit. Representatives Cockran, Cummings and Stahlmecker, of New York, all have in their possession bills which they have been petitioned to introduce providing for the suppression of the manufacture of cigarettes and imposing an internal revenue tax of \$10 per thousand on all imported or domestic cigarettes sold in this country.

The Senate was not in session to-day.

THE CHARTER SIGNED.

The Governor Affixed His Signature to It Yesterday.

RICHMOND, Va., Feb. 12.—[Special]—Gov. McKinney signed the new Roanoke city charter to-day. It goes into effect from its passage.

The Kent bill came up as a special order in the house this afternoon, and Mr. James, of Goodland, opened the debate by championing the measure, rehearsing the statements worn to a frazzle in the committee as to the prosperity of railroads in States having commissions. He claimed that the Democratic party was pledged to give the people a commission, and that if the legislators failed to carry out the campaign promises they must be influenced by railroad passes.

A running debate followed as to the reading of the bill and the reading was commenced. After sundry little tilts and several motions, the house at 3 o'clock adjourned.

Bills continue to pour in the houses and to-day the house calendar is quite appalling in size. The bills before the house finance committee would fill an average waste basket, and most of them are born for no better fate.

Among the measures introduced to-day in the house was one making Wednesday and Thursday market days for cattle in Richmond and to allow Pulaski county, on petition of freeholders, to vote at any time to bond the county for the purpose of making roads.

A similar measure is pending for Wythe. Much of to-day's session was consumed in considering the bill giving owners a lien for services of stock animals and the bill passed to engrossment.

The joint finance committees will, in the morning, report the bill carrying into effect the provisions of the Olcott settlement.

In the caucus to-night Samuel W. Williams was unanimously chosen to succeed Judge David W. Bolen as judge of the fifteenth circuit. James A. Sheppard was chosen as corporation judge of the new city of Buena Vista.

The Weather.

Forecast: For Virginia, continued cold, northwesterly winds with gales on Carolina coast and fair weather Saturday. Warmer and fair Sunday.

Destructive Fire at Birmingham.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 12.—[Special]—The paint and wall paper establishment of George W. Harris, on Twenty-first street, and the Hopkins stove and tinware store, adjoining, burned this morning. The total loss is \$23,000, on which there was an insurance of \$31,000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Another Bank President Arrested.

MOOREHEAD, Minn., Feb. 12.—[Special]—H. A. Bruns, president of the failed Merchants' Bank, has been arrested on the charge of defrauding the depositors out of \$80,000. The complaint was made by Robert Enegron, who has been the bank's bookkeeper for about eight years.

No Disturbance at Montevideo.

LONDON, Feb. 12.—[Special]—A dispatch received here from Montevideo states that the report that troops stationed in the garrison in that city had revolted is without foundation. There are and have been no disturbances in Montevideo.

No Trouble With the Navajo Indians.

COLDIDGE, N. M., Feb. 12.—[Special]—There is no truth in the reports sent out from this vicinity that the cowboys had a fight with the Navajo Indians and killed three of them. Everything is quiet now, and it is probable that no serious trouble will occur.